AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing program criteria comprising:

a server computer storing a plurality of tokens, at least two of the plurality of tokens ~~each containing an XML formatted block of data~~ identifying a disparate one of at least two segments of a predetermined one of an audio and visual program;

wherein the server is programmed to provide at least one token to a remote computer as an e-mail attachment based on received selection criteria, the remote computer ~~utilizes~~ utilizing at least two tokens to selectively combine at least two program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of one or more users at the remote computer, the viewing characteristics comprising at least ~~one of~~ an age of the one or more users~~, time of day and~~ or ~~type of show being viewed~~.

2.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server is programmed to transmit a message to the remote computer based on the selection criteria, the message including the at least one token.

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Original) The system of claim 3, wherein the token is an attachment to the email message.

5.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server computer is further programmed to store corresponding program data as an attribute of each token, the server providing corresponding program data with each token.

6.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein a program database is stored at the server computer, the program database including the plurality of tokens identifying a plurality of at least one of audio and visual programs.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein, in response to a translation request, the server is programmed to translate a token into a useable format for programming a recording system to record a predetermined at least one of an audio and visual program in a tuning space associated with the recording system.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the server is further programmed to select a tuning space based on identifying data provided with the translation request.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the server stores a unique identifier for each recording system registered with the server, each unique identifier being associated with tuning space information for each respective recording system.

10.   (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the useable format includes programming data identifying at least two of date, channel, time, and duration associated with each token provided with the translation request.

11.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server is further programmed to store the plurality of tokens as part of a programmable database, the server updating the programmable database in response to receiving an update request at the server.

12.   (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the server is further programmed to notify the remote computer in response to receiving an update request that modifies program criteria for a program represented by the at least one token.

13.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the server stores a different identifiable characteristic for each token obtained from the server, the server employing an identifiable characteristic to notify the remote computer of changes in program criteria for a program represented by the at least one token.

14.   (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the server is further programmed to provide at least one of a token and updated programming data to the remote computer in response to receiving an update request that modifies program criteria for a program represented by the at least one token previously provided to the remote computer.

15.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer-executable components being executed by a processor, comprising:

a token database component for storing tokens, each token representing a different segment of at least one ~~of an audio or~~ audio-visual program ~~that a first user has indicated a desire to record~~;

a message component with which at least one token is transmitted ~~from the first user to a second user~~ to a first computer in response to a request for the at least one token from the first computer; wherein

the at least one token is utilized to program a first recording device ~~associated with the second user~~ to record the ~~audio or~~ audio-visual program represented by the token by transferring the at least one token from the first computer to the first recording device[[.]]; and

the at least one token is transferable from the first computer to the second computer as an e-mail attachment, the e-mailed token utilized to program a second recording device to record the audio-visual program by transferring the e-mailed token from the second computer to the second recording device.

16.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 15 having further computer-executable components comprising a user interface component for receiving selection criteria having program characteristics indicative of at least one of an audio and visual program.

17.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16 having further computer-executable components comprising a search component for locating at least one token from the token database component based on the selection criteria.

18.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 15 having further computer-executable components comprising a program database component that includes the token database component, the program database component associating at least one attribute with each token, the at least one attribute being provided with the at least one token.

19.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 15 having further computer-executable components comprising a translation component for, in response to a translation request, translating a token into programming data having a useable format for programming a recording system to record a predetermined at least one of an audio and visual program in a tuning space associated with the recording system.

20.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein translation component includes further computer executable instructions for selecting a tuning space based on identifying data provided with the translation request.

21.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein the token database component comprises further computer-executable components for updating the programming data in response to receiving an update request.

22.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 15 having further computer-executable components comprising a notification component for notifying a remote computer in response to receiving an update request that results in modifying program criteria for a program represented by the at least one token.

23.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the notification component comprises further computer-executable components for providing at least one of a token and updated programming data to the remote computer in response to receiving an update request that modifies program criteria for a program represented by a token previously provided to the remote computer.

24.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing program criteria comprising:

means for storing at least one token ~~containing an XML formatted block of data~~ representing one of a plurality of ~~audio and/or~~ audio-visual programs;

means for receiving a query from a user identifying program selection criteria;

means for ~~providing~~ transmitting a selected token matching the program selection criteria to a first ~~user~~ computer in response to [[a]] the query ~~from the first user identifying program selection criteria~~;

means for transmitting a copy of the token as an e-mail attachment from the first ~~user~~ computer to a second ~~user~~ computer;

means for utilizing the token to program a first recording device ~~associated with the first user~~ to record the ~~audio/visual~~ audio-visual program by transferring the token from the first computer to the first recording device; ~~and~~

means for utilizing the copy of the token to program a second recording device ~~associated with the second user~~ to record the ~~audio/visual~~ audio-visual program ~~represented by the token~~ by transferring the copy of the token from the second computer to the second recording device[[.]];

means for storing the program selection criteria information in a database when none of the stored tokens match the selection criteria and subsequently sending a notification to the user at a later time when a token matching the stored selection criteria becomes available; and

means for tracking the number of times the token is transmitted to a user in response to a query from the user and the number of times the token is transmitted between users.

25.   (Original) The system of claim 24 further including means for updating the token storing means in response to an update request.

26.   (Original) The system of claim 25 further includes means for providing at least one of a token and updated programming data to a remote computer in response to receiving an update request that modifies program criteria for a program represented by a token previously provided to the remote computer.

27.   (Original) The system of claim 24 further including means for translating a token into a useable format for programming a remote recording system to record a predetermined at least one of an audio and visual program in a tuning space associated with the recording system.

28.   (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein the means for providing selected token data further includes means to send a message a remote computer based on the query, the message including selected token data.

29.   (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein the message is a text email message, the selected token being operatively associated with the email message.

30.   (Currently Amended) A method for providing program criteria to facilitate programming of a recording system, the method comprising:

        sending at least two tokens, each ~~containing an XML formatted packet of data~~ identifying a disparate one of at least two program segments of an audio or visual program, from a first computer to a second computer as e-mail attachments based on selection criteria received at the first computer; and

        utilizing the at least two tokens to selectively combine the at least two program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of one or more users of the second computer, the viewing characteristics comprising at least ~~one of age~~ <u>demographic data</u> of the one or more users~~, time of day and type of show being viewed~~.

31.   (Original) The method of claim 30 further including searching a program database for the token based on the selection criteria.

32.   (Previously Presented) A method for providing program criteria to facilitate programming of a recording system that, the method comprising

storing a plurality of tokens in a database at a first computer, each token identifying an audio or visual program;

receiving selection criteria from a second computer, the selection criteria represents a desired recording of a first user;

selecting at least one token based on the selection criteria;

sending a message to the second computer, the message having the selected at least one token associated with the message;

~~sending a copy of the received token from the second computer to a third computer, the third computer is employed by a second user;~~

e-mailing the token residing on the second computer to an e-mail address associated with a first recording device;

authenticating the e-mailed token at the first recording device to verify the token was sent from an authorized source, authentication [[is]] based at least on the e-mail address of the sender of the token, at least one authorized e-mail addressed [[is]] defined by user configuration;

utilizing the e-mailed token to program the first recording device to record the audio or visual program represented by the token; ~~and~~

<u>e-mailing a copy of the token from the second computer to an e-mail address associated with a second user; and</u>

utilizing the copy of the token ~~residing on the third computer~~ <u>e-mailed to the second user</u> to program a second recording device to record the audio or visual program represented by the token, the second recording device [[is]] programmed by e-mailing the token to an e-mail address associated with the second recording device.

33.   (Original) The method of claim 32 further including searching a program database for a token representing at least one of an audio and visual program corresponding to the selection criteria.

34.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, ~~wherein the step of sending~~ further ~~includes~~ <u>comprising</u> sending the message to ~~the~~ <u>a</u> remote computer based on address data provided by the second computer, the remote computer being different from the second computer.

35.   (Cancelled)

36.   (Original) The method of claim 32 further including updating the database at the first computer in response to an update request received at the first computer.

37.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36 further including providing at least one of a token and updated programming data to ~~a remote~~ <u>the second</u> computer in response updating the database so as to modify program criteria for a program represented by a token previously provided to the ~~remote~~ <u>the second</u> computer.

38.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32 wherein, in response to a translation request, a token is translated into programming data having a useable format for programming a remote recording system to record a predetermined at least one of an audio ~~and~~ <u>or</u> visual program in a tuning space associated with the recording system.

39.   (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the message is a text email message, the selected token being operatively associated with the email message.

40.   (Currently Amended) A system to facilitate remote programming of a recording system, comprising:

a server operable to receive a plurality of tokens, each token having data identifying at least one of a user and the recording system and identifying a plurality of segments of program data associated with ~~one of~~ an audio-visual ~~and visual~~ program, the server being operable to communicate program data, based on the token, to a programmable recording system to effect programming of the recording system to record the ~~at least one of an~~ audio-visual ~~and visual~~ program, the programmable recording system utilizes the plurality of tokens to selectively combine at least two of the plurality of program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of a client system, viewing characteristics of the client system comprising at least ~~one of~~ the age of viewer~~, time of day and type of show being viewed~~.

41.   (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein the server is a first server, the token being provided as a request from a second server in response to a user selection associated with the at least one of an audio and visual program.

42.   (Currently Amended) A system to facilitate remote programming of a recording system, comprising:

a first server operable to receive data indicative of a user selection, the first server providing a request to a second server, the request having data identifying at least one of the user ~~and~~ or a ~~the~~ recording system, the second server communicates program data corresponding to ~~one of~~ an audio-visual ~~and visual~~ program in at least two segments, each segment associated with a disparate token, the user selections are tracked by the second server and associated with the user; and

~~and~~ a programmable recording system that utilizes tokens associated with the at least two program segments to combine the at least two program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of a client system, the viewing characteristics of the client system comprising at least ~~one of age of a viewer, time of the day and type of show being viewed~~ demographic data of the user associated with the client system[[.]], wherein the programmable recording system stores advertisements that are selectively inserted between the program segments, the advertisements are selected based at least on the tracked user selections.

43.   (Cancelled)

44.   (Currently Amended) A user interface to facilitate remote programming of a recording system, comprising:

a selectable display portion <u>presented to a user upon selection of a token, the</u> <u>token</u> associated with ~~at least one of~~ an audio<u>-visual</u> ~~and a visual~~ program; ~~and~~

<u>a RECORD control embedded in the selectable display portion that effects</u> <u>programming of a first recording system to record the audio-visual program represented</u> <u>by the token; and</u>

<u>a SEND control embedded in the selectable display portion that facilitates e-</u> <u>mailing the token to an e-mail address, e-mailing the token allows the recipient of the</u> <u>token to effect programming a second recording system to record the audio-visual</u> <u>program.</u>

~~a process associated with the display portion to effect programming of a recording~~ ~~system to record the at least one of an audio and visual program in response to selection~~ ~~of the display portion, wherein the process is resident at a server operable to~~ ~~communicate at least two tokens each representing disparate segments of the at least one~~ ~~of an audio and visual program to the recording system based on the selection to effect~~ ~~programming of the recording system, the recording system utilizes the at least two~~ ~~tokens to selectively combine the disparate segments based at least on one of age of~~ ~~viewer, time of day and type of show being viewed.~~

45.   (Cancelled)

46.   (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving program content criteria from a <u>first</u> user *via* a communication link;

selecting program content based on the program content criteria received from the user;

associating ~~each of at least two segments of~~ the program content with ~~disparate~~ <u>at least one</u> token[[s]], ~~each~~ <u>the at least one</u> token ~~containing an XML-formatted block of data~~ identifying the associated program ~~segment~~ <u>content</u>;

~~utilizing tokens associated with the at least two program segments to selectively combine the at least two program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of the user, viewing characteristics of the user comprising at least one of age of the user, time of day and type of show being viewed; and~~

transmitting the <u>at least one</u> token[[s]] to <u>a first client computer associated with the first user</u> ~~effect recording of a program corresponding to the program content~~[[.]]<u>;</u>

<u>sending the at least one token from the first client computer to a first recording device to effect recording of the program content corresponding to the token;</u>

<u>e-mailing the token from the first client computer to an e-mail address associated with a second user;</u>

<u>determining if the e-mailed token was received from an e-mail address that has been authorized by the second user;</u>

<u>automatically sending the e-mailed token to a second recording device associated with the second user to effect recording of the program content without requesting confirmation from the second user when the token is received from an e-mail address that has been authorized by the second user; and</u>

<u>requesting authorization from the second user to effect recording of the program content on the second recording device when the token is received from an e-mail address that has not been authorized by the second user.</u>

47.   (Cancelled)

48.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the tokens are transmitted to a recording system.

49.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the tokens are transmitted to a server.

50.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer-executable instructions being executed by a processor for performing the steps of claim 46.

51.   (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

transmitting for display on a remote computer information about ~~at least one of~~ audio-visual ~~and visual~~ content;

receiving from the user computer a selection of the content;

constructing a plurality of tokens, each token associated with one of a plurality of disparate segments of the content;

selectively combining at least two of the plurality of tokens based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of at least one user associated with the remote computer, the viewing characteristics comprising at least ~~one of age of viewer, time of day and type of show being viewed~~ demographic data of the user; and

transmitting the at least two of the plurality of tokens to effect recording of a program.

52.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the tokens are transmitted to the remote computer.

53.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the tokens are transmitted to a recording system.

54.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the tokens are transmitted to a server.

55.   (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein the step of receiving further includes receiving information identifying the user.

56.   (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein the step of receiving further includes receiving information identifying a device associated with the user.

57.   (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein the step of receiving further includes receiving information identifying a local tuning space and system configuration for a device.

58.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer-executable instructions being executed by a processor for performing the steps of claim 51.

59.   (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

        storing programming information;

        receiving from a computer user information and information describing ~~one of~~ an audio-<u>visual</u> ~~and visual~~ program;

        using the stored programming information and the user information to construct tokens that include information sufficient to program a recording system to record the ~~one of~~ audio-<u>visual</u> ~~and visual~~ program, the ~~one of~~ audio-<u>visual</u> ~~and visual~~ program comprising a plurality of program segments, each program segment corresponding to a disparate token;

        selectively combining tokens associated with at least two of the plurality of program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of the user, viewing characteristics comprising at least ~~one of~~ <u>the</u> age of <u>the</u> user~~, time of day and type of show being viewed~~; and

         transmitting the tokens <u>to the user</u> *via* a communication link<u>, the received tokens utilized by the user to effect recording of the audio-visual program on a recording device and operable to be transmitted by the first user to an e-mail address associated with a second user</u>.

60.   (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the computer is a remote computer.

61.   (Original) The method of claim 60, wherein the remote computer is a portable computer.

62.   (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the computer is a server.

63.   (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the user information includes information identifying characteristics of a device associated with the user.

64.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of transmitting further includes transmitting the tokens token to the computer.

65.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of transmitting further includes transmitting the tokens token to a recording system.

66.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of transmitting further includes transmitting the tokens token to a server.

67.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer-executable instructions being executed by a processor for performing the steps of claim 59.